

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the material recycling of LCDs, comprising

mixing the LCDs with a composition that comprises a mixture of noble and non-noble metals,

melting the mixture at a temperature range of 900 to 1700°C,

cooling the resultant melt,

breaking the cooled melt, and

separating a part of the cooled melt that is enriched in the noble metals from the remaining part of the cooled melt.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the LCD-containing mixture is melted at a temperature range of 1200 to 1400°C.

5. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the LCDs comprise electronic components.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 1, further comprising in a process for recovering noble metals from a composition comprising a mixture of noble and non-noble metals, which process comprises melting the mixture and adding furnace sand to bind the non-noble metals in the melted mixture, the improvement comprising replacing at least some of the furnace sand with LCDs.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 1, further

comprising adding In a reductive melting process of metal-containing compositions for the recovery of metals, which process comprises the addition of a carbon-containing product as a reducing agent to the melted mixture, the improvement comprising replacing at least some of the carbon-containing product with LCDs, wherein the plastic films present in the LCDs act as the reducing agent.

10. (Previously Presented) A process for the material recycling of LCDs, comprising thermally treating the LCDs in a rotary-tube furnace at a temperature of 1100 to 1300°C.

11. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 10, wherein the LCDs result in the formation of a protective film on the inner lining of the rotary-tube furnace.

12. (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim 10, further comprising In a process for increasing the lifespan of a chamotte lining in a rotary-tube furnace, which process comprises adding a silicate-containing compound to materials incinerated in into said furnace to form a protective film on the walls of said furnace, the improvement comprising replacing at least some of the silicate-containing compound with LCDs.

13-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the composition that comprises a mixture of noble and non-noble metals is an ore.

22. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the composition that comprises a mixture of noble and non-noble metals is a catalyst, electrical or electronic scrap or metal-containing sludge.

23. (New) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the proportion of LCDs in the mixture as a whole is 5 to 50% by weight.